Computerised rail reservation in Punjab

† 294. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations in Punjab where rail reservations are done by computer; and

(b) the number and details of additional stations where computerised reservation centres are proposed to be opened, station-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) As on January 31,2002, Computerised Reservation facilities exist at 19 locations in Punjab.

(b) These facilities are likely to be provided at Phagwara station by the end of this financial year. The proposal for the computerised reservation facilities at Giddarbaha, Muktsar, Moga, Chakkibank, Kapurthala and Faridkot has been included in the Annual Railway Budget 2002-03.

Delhi-Lucknow Swarna Shatabdi Train

295. SHRI SANTOSHBAGRODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have started a hi-tech Delhi-Lucknow Swarna Shatabdi train which costed Rupees four crore for each coach;

(b) whether it is also a fact that price of such-hi-tach coach is four times the price of an Indian coach;

(c) whether any training programme was being conducted before the coaches started commissioning; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) yes, Sir. Modem technology based coaches received from M/s ALSTOM LHB of Germany with transfer of technology to upgrade existing coach manufacturing technology have been introduced on Delhi-Lucknow Swarna Shatabdi

(b) Total 24 coaches comprising of 19 AC Chair cars, 3 power cars and 2 Executive Chair cars were supplied by M/s ALSTOM LHB at a total FOB cost

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.